

FEB 19 2000

February 10, 2000

US Army Corps of Engineers
Walla Walla District
201 North 3rd Ave.
Walla Walla, Washington 99362-1876

ATTENTION: Lower Snake River Juvenile Salmon Migration Feasibility Study

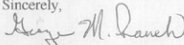
To whom it may concern,

While it is true that many jobs have been lost in the Fishing Industry and in the Recreation Industry dealing with fish, I feel that breaching of the 4 Lower Snake River Dams is by far the extremist measure with no sure gains. None of us want to see the extinction of the salmon but other already tried and found to be successful methods can be used that has a strong possibility of bring the populations back. This has been proven by the increase in numbers of returning fish this year alone. Local fishermen have been reporting that their catches this year are equaling those that they caught 10 to 15 years ago.

Therefore, I feel that Alternative 3 (Major System Improvements) is our best option. Transporting fish has proven successful and I feel that with the installation of surface collectors and voluntary spills the numbers of returning fish can be further increased. Rivers in the Northwest that aren't dammed at present are also experiencing losses in the number of fish returning so I feel that in regards to the "All H's Paper", that alternative B (Harvest Constraints) is our best choice. We must reduce ocean fisheries and put limits on in river fishing (including the tribes) and increase our use of hatcheries to rebuild wild runs to further increase the number of fish in our rivers.

The single alternative of dam breaching is not our best choice. Please take these comments into consideration when making your final decision and thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns.

Sincerely,



George M. Rauch
Northwest Timber Workers
Resource Council
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